

Grades 3, 4, and 5  
Session 9

Prayer- the sign of the cross and the Our Father

Start by reminding the kids about our last lessons about Abraham. We learned that God made 3 promises to Abraham, He promised him

1. A great name <- father of kings
2. Lots of land <- a great nation
3. A big family <- lots of people

So if we think about this, which thing does he need first? God moves differently than things like magicians who just snap their fingers and “poof”, there it is. That is because magicians aren’t real. But God is real and he works some things fast and some things slower. This is one of those things that needed to be done slower, one thing at a time.

So it stands to reason that, if you are going to make a king, he is going to need a nation to be king of, but you can’t have a nation without people to live in your nation. That means the first ingredient we need is people! And Abraham had one son, Isaac. Well actually he had 8 sons, he had Ishmael, whom he was reunited with later in life, and he had more sons after Sarah passed away with his second wife. But Isaac was still the child of the promise from God.

If you make out your family tree you can see how your family has grown and grown. Just like that, Abraham’s family grew. One time, there was a time when there was no food to be found so the whole family moved to Egypt because there was plenty of food, plenty of jobs, good weather and the Pharaoh (the name they called the king) liked them. At that time, the family had about 70 people in it and they were Abraham’s great-grandsons led by the youngest, Joseph.

If you like, you can make a family tree with your child and show how rapidly 2 people can turn into a big family in order to illustrate how Abraham’s family got so big.

Abraham’s family stayed in Egypt for many years until there were lots of them. About 600,000 men of them. That is a lot of family and that doesn’t even count the women and children! And that is where our next story picks up. Egypt is full of Abraham’s family and the Pharaoh likes that they are all such good workers but he is fearful they might take over the country.

Words to know

- Pharaoh- the name given to a king in Egypt
- Hebrews- the family of Abraham

Together read Exodus 1:8-14 and 1:22-2:10 (Page 101)

Make stops throughout the readings when the kids need to discuss or need some clarification. Talking about this story and the killing of the innocent babies is a hard thing for the kids to wrap their minds around. It is something that they should know about though and recognize the

event as a horrible thing. Focus more on how God saved the child Moses and the fact that the Egyptian princess who found him in the basket surely knew that the girl and the woman she hired to care for the baby was really his own mother and sister. Not only did the princess do the right thing letting Moses live even though her dad, the Pharaoh, would be mad, she took him in and raised him as an Egyptian prince with all the good things that came with it.

So maybe God's plan to save His people was that when Moses grows up to be a fine man, having gone to the best schools and taught about the government and the military as well as reading, writing, math, and astronomy, he can talk to the Pharaoh for the Hebrew people and stop the slavery and bad treatment of the people. What do you think will happen?

Read together Exodus 2:11-25

Moses wrecks God's plan when he lost his temper with the slave driver. And now he is on the run and leaves the Hebrews sit there in their misery and doesn't think about it any more.

Questions:

1. Do you ever do something to wreck the plans of your family?
2. Does your family still love you?
3. Do they give you another chance to do things right?
4. What do you think is going to happen to Moses next?
5. Do you think God will give him another chance to do things right or will He just leave Abraham's family in Egypt to be slaves forever?

Read together Exodus 3:1-17

Have your child underline or highlight God's name "I AM" in verse 14.

Go over pages 104 and 105 in your child's Bible with them.

One of the big take-aways of this story is that even though Moses does things wrong at first, God doesn't give up on him. Moses doesn't really know much about God at all and is even reluctant to do what God asks of him, but God was patient with Moses and helps him along to be one of the most famous people in the Bible for all the wonderful things he did.

Closing Prayer

The sign of the cross and the Glory Be with a special blessing on the parents by the child/children.